

**PATENT**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
LARRY ZHAO  
JEREMY MARTIN  
HARTMUT RUELKE

Serial No.: 10/717,122

Filed: November 19, 2003

For: DIELECTRIC BARRIER LAYER FOR A  
COPPER METALLIZATION LAYER  
HAVING A VARYING SILICON  
CONCENTRATION ALONG ITS  
THICKNESS

Examiner: Alexander G. Ghyka

Group Art Unit: 2812

Att'y Docket: 2000.106900/DE0130

Customer No.: 23720

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED JULY 12, 2006**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated July 12, 2006, for which the three-month date for response is October 12, 2006.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with the present paper. However, should any fees be required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21, the Director is authorized to deduct such fees from Williams, Morgan & Amerson, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-0786/2000.106900.

Reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.